

Early Childhood Committee Meeting

October 26, 2011

2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Conference Room B, Volusia County Health Department



In attendance:

Name	Agency
Brown, Omar	Midtown Eco Village
Funchess, Lisa	Volusia County Health Department/WIC
Galloway, Pinkie	Volusia County Health Department/WIC
Givens Hajj-Mak, Cassandra	Mid Florida Community Services/Head Start
Houde, April	Mid Florida Community Services/Head Start
Moran, Teresa	Volusia County Health Department
Philip, Celeste	Volusia County Health Department
Schlageter, Deborah	One Voice for Volusia
Wycuff, Lauren	Early Learning Coalition of Flagler/Volusia

Welcome/Introductions

Ms. Schlageter called the meeting to order at 2 p.m. Roundtable introductions ensued. Ms. Schlageter and Ms. Moran shared that the Community Inventory was in development and encouraged all who have not submitted information to do so.

Continue Planning Process to Create a Community Action Plan

The action plan drafted to date was presented (handout). Discussion ensued regarding the addition of the following strategies to be added to the plan:

Media

- Publicly recognize efforts of early child care providers that meet goals of the Let's Move Volusia's YOUTH coalition.

Access

- Support the development of a "how to start a garden kit" to promote healthy fresh food access and improve preschoolers' eating habits.
- Identify and distribute available funding opportunities to providers to support gardens at early child care sites.

Social Support & Services

- Provide wellness policy training to early child care providers to develop model wellness policies.
- Support early childhood providers in the development of wellness policies to ensure healthy food and physical activity environments for children aged 0 to 5.
- Support incorporating school gardens into classroom lessons to provide students with hands-on, multidisciplinary learning activities.

The draft plan, based on discussion from this meeting, is attached. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned. The committee members are invited to mark their calendar for the next Coalition meeting which will be held on Wednesday, November 30, 2011 from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. in Conference Room C at the Volusia County Health Department.

Early Childhood Workgroup

Strategies		Action Steps
Media	Promote the national Let's Move Child Care among providers to support key nutrition and physical activity goals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborate with Early Learning Coalition and Mid-Florida Community Services-Head Start to encourage providers to join Let's Move Child Care. Work with PIOs to promote Let's Move Child Care to both providers and parents.
	Promote list of books that are age-appropriate for children highlighting healthy eating and physical activity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make list available at Volusia County Public Library and to child care providers. Market on website and as appropriate.

Strategies		Action Steps
Access	Provide parents/guardians of young children (0-5) with information about accessing nutrition.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mobilize organizations that have contact with the parents of young children to provide information at multiple intervention points. Incorporated into WIC, thrive by five collaborative strategies for 2011-12.
	Increase access to fruit and vegetables through gardens at early child care sites.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with workgroup via email to develop list of funding opportunities. Identify staff or partner to take role of adding to the initial list. Identify and distribute available funding opportunities to providers to support gardens at early child care sites. Share updates as needed or at least quarterly.

Strategies		Action Steps
Point of Purchase, Promotion	Identify and promote free and low-cost healthy activities for children among collaborating organizations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporated into thrive by five collaborative strategy, 2011-12

Strategies		Action Steps
Social Support & Services	Support early childhood providers in the development of wellness policies to ensure healthy food and physical activity environments for children aged 0 to 5.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey providers regarding needs/funding/interest. • Provide wellness policy training to early child care providers to develop model wellness policies. • Provide wellness trainings/workshops to families through providers.
	Support incorporating school gardens into classroom lessons to provide students with hands-on, multidisciplinary learning activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop “How to” simplified garden for preschoolers.
	Utilize Women, Infants and Children (WIC) nutrition questionnaire to assist with clients’ weight management goals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporated into WIC Strategic Plan. • <i>Nutritionists/Nutrition Educators</i>
	Reduce BMI% among at-risk WIC clients through providing nutrition education based on program standards.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide WIC nutrition education to clients assigned risk code 110 in the form of two difference nutrition education packets. • Packets will be distributed by CPAs who will discuss the components of the packets. • Incorporated into WIC Strategic Plan • <i>Nutrition Education Packets 1 and 2</i>
	Promote nutrition (positive food choices in preschoolers) through WIC Nutritious Story Time with community partners.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partner with Volusia County Head Starts and Volusia County Public Library for WIC program. • Stories include: <i>The Hungry Caterpillar, The Two Bite Club & I Will Never Not Ever Eat a Tomato</i> • Incorporated into WIC Strategic Plan
	Expand breastfeeding education and support provided to pregnant women and parenting families through WIC.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist WIC breastfeeding staff with encouraging longevity, as breastfed infants have a lower incidence of obesity • Incorporated into WIC Strategic Plan • <i>Breastfeeding Staff, Community Hospitals, Healthy Start</i>